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AN ADDRESS

ON THE OCCASION OF

DEDICATING THE MONUMENT

TO

LADD AND WHITNEY,

MEMBERS OF THE SIXTH REGIMENT, M. V. M., KILLED AT BALTIMORE,
MARYLAND, APRIL 19, 1861.

DELIVERED AT

LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS, JUNE 17, 1865.

BY JOHN A. ANDREW,

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

BOSTON:

WRIGHT & POTTER, STATE PRINTERS, No. 4 SPRING LANE.

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ADDRESS.

On the 18th of February, 1861, Jefferson Davis, in the pride of his arrogant pretension, not yet taught to believe that the Yankees would fight, encouraged in his insolence by the mild loyalty which then pervaded Washington, New York, and the great cities of the North, defied their manhood by the exclamation: "The day of compromise is past, and those who now resist us shall smell Southern gunpowder and feel Southern steel." On the 12th day of April, the day when the cannon of treason opened on Fort Sumter, the rebel Secretary of War shouted from the rebel capital at Montgomery: "The war has now commenced; within a month the Confederate flag will float over the dome of the Capitol at Washington, and in the month of May we will dictate terms of peace in Independence Hall, in Philadelphia." And the "Richmond Whig," reiterating this threat, recorded in its conservative columns the testimony, that "from the mountain tops and valleys to the shores of the sea, there is one wild shout of firm resolve to capture Washington City at all and every human effort."

Before Mr. Buchanan had left the White House, the enemies of our government had already seized and appropriated more than thirty millions of dollars of public property of the Union, which, before the Union struck a blow in return, had swelled to forty millions of dollars by the seizure of Gosport navy yard and the arsenal at Harper's Ferry. By the seizure of the mint at New Orleans; by the seizure of the arsenal, at Little Rock—accomplished by the strong hand, notwithstanding Arkansas had refused to secede from the Union; by the dishonest and treacherous transfers made by Secretary Floyd of 115,000 stand of improved rifles and muskets from Springfield armory and Watervliet arsenal to the different arsenals at the South; by the seizure of the arsenal at Mount Vernon, Alabama; by the military capture of Fort Moultrie and Castle Pinckney, of Fort Pulaski and Fort Morgan, of the forts near New Orleans, and of at least three different revenue cutters belonging to the revenue service of the Union; by the capture of the navy yard and the defences of Pensacola; by taking possession of the posts, the fortifications and munitions pertaining to the department of Texas, through the treason of General Twiggs; by firing on the "Star of the West" more than ninety days prior to the assault on Sumter; and by the induction of Jefferson Davis at Montgomery two weeks before the inauguration of President Lincoln; by all these

the secessionists had signalized, with proofs manifold and unequivocal, their determination to break down the government and fulfil the threats of Davis and of the "Richmond Whig," to bully the North into abject submission to the wildest demands of rampant Slavery, or else to light the torch of desolating war.

The earliest, manifest, overt act of war, committed in pursuance of the treasonable conspiracy of which the adoption by South Carolina of the "ordinance of secession" was the formal beginning, was perhaps the firing on the "Star of the West," on the 9th day of January, 1861. The passage of the ordinance by South Carolina was on the 20th day of December, 1860. But the beginning of the war of the rebellion is usually dated from the 12th day of April, 1861, that being the day when, after long and uninterrupted preparation, the batteries of the rebels opened upon Fort Sumter.

On the 15th day of April the President of the United States called upon this Commonwealth for two regiments of militia, and on the next day the call was enlarged to a requisition for a brigade of four regiments, which was assigned to the command of Brigadier-General Benjamin F. Butler, in whose stead, after that officer became a Major-General of volunteers, was detailed Brigadier-General Ebenezer W. Peirce. On the 17th, the Sixth Regiment

of Massachusetts Volunteer Militia, commanded by Col. Edward F. Jones, marched for Washington by railroad, and two others, the Third, (Col. D. W. Wardrop,) and Fourth, (Col. A. B. Packard,) moved by sea. On the 18th the Eighth Regiment marched under Col. Munroe; on the 20th, the Third Battalion of Rifles under Major (now Major-General) Devens; and the Fifth Infantry, (Col. Lawrence,) and Cook's Battery of Light Artillery on the early morning of the 21st. Capt. Dodd's company of rifles, as a reinforcement to Devens' Battalion, marched May 1st. Thus rapidly and efficiently was the call of the government responded to by the militia of Massachusetts, and the capital of the nation and Fortress Monroe, which was of far greater military value than Washington, were rescued from imminent danger, at a period when the consequences of ages were crowded upon the efforts of an hour.

The events which the transactions of this day, and this Monumental Shaft are intended to commemorate, are those which on the 19th of April, 1861, the anniversary of the battle of Lexington, signalized the march of the Sixth Regiment of the Massachusetts Volunteer Militia through the City of Baltimore, on its way to the rescue of the National Capital. By the memory of those events, preserved by historical tradition after this column shall have dissolved to dust, the men of the Sixth Regiment

will be forever associated with the heroism of the Commonwealth,—with the earlier and the later glories of her more fortunate patriotism.

The regiment as it was organized for active duty, contained four companies from the City of Lowell, viz.:—Companies A, C, D and H, commanded respectively by Captains George M. Dickerman, Albert S. Follansbee, James W. Hart and John F. Noyes; one from Groton, Company B, commanded by Capt. Eusebius S. Clark; one from Acton, Company E, commanded by Capt. Daniel Tuttle; two from Lawrence, Companies F and I, commanded by Captains Benjamin F. Chadbourne and John Pickering; one attached from Boston, Company K, commanded by Capt. Walter S. Sampson; one from Stoneham, Company L, commanded by Capt. John H. Dike; one attached from Worcester, commanded by Capt. Harrison W. Pratt.

Its field officers were Col. Edward F. Jones of Pepperell, Lieut. Col. Benj. F. Watson of Lawrence, Major Josiah A. Sawtell of Lowell; and its commissioned staff were, Adjutant Alpha B. Farr, of Lowell, Quartermaster James Munroe, of Cambridge, Paymaster Rufus L. Plaisted, of Lowell, Surgeon Norman Smith, of Groton, and Chaplain Charles Babbidge, of Pepperell.

The regiment reached the City of Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, at noon on the 19th of April. Seven of its companies passed unmolested

from the railroad station at which it had arrived from Philadelphia, to the station from which it was to proceed to Washington. The progress of the cars that contained the four remaining companies,—Companies C, D, I, and L,—was checked near the bridge over a sluice-way in Pratt Street, by obstructions thrown upon the track, separating them from the main body of the regiment. Thus delayed, these companies dismounted from the cars, and began an orderly march along the highway, which was presently interrupted by a shower of missiles thrown by the hands of a mob surging around them. Then came a scattering discharge of fire-arms from upper windows of houses on the street, as well as from among the mob on the pavement ; and four soldiers fell dead or mortally wounded. The fire of the rebels was at last returned by the troops by order of their officers, and the combat became general. The little column, hardly two hundred strong, steadily pressed its way forward through the mob, and rejoined the main body, but with a loss of more than thirty wounded, in addition to the four killed.

That evening, the Sixth Regiment entered the City of Washington, and was quartered in the Senate Chamber of the Capitol,—the herald of those mighty hosts which since have gathered to defend it.

The treasonable menaces, the Ordinances of Secession, the acts of violence and incipient war, which followed the choice of Presidential Electors in 1860, and culminated into flagrant rebellion upon the accession of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency, had attracted the anxious observation of mankind. Never in the history of civilization had interests so manifold, so transcendent, been involved or threatened by the internal disputes of any nation or people. The industry of thirty millions of human beings, bond and free, the peace, happiness and welfare of every household of our continental Republic, the business of the busiest and richest people under the sun, the strength of Republican Government, the validity of Democratic ideas expressed in civil institutions, the success of Liberty, seemed trembling in the balance, where, poised against each other, were the struggling hope of continued peace, and the dismal presage of civil war. With the fortunes of the American Union were involved, by reason of the intimate complexity of all human relations in the social and political organization of modern times, the prosperity, if not the fate, of many nations. The people of Massachusetts numbered about a million and a quarter of the population of the Union. From the earliest settlement of the country, they had been distinguished in two different, if not opposite ways, which superficial men are apt to think not

consistent with each other. I mean in the direction of *Industry*, and in the direction of *Ideas*. Given to much toil, they valued gain as an instrument of comfort, progress and human development. Devoted to ideas, they worshipped Almighty God in a spirit of reverence, which recognized among the sublime truths of his revelation, the immortal nature conferred on the humblest as well as on the loftiest of mankind, and they perceived that the glory of the civil State, as well as the Justice of Heaven, demanded the maintenance and security of the inalienable rights of men.

In view of the part that people and their fathers had borne, in establishing the original character of American institutions, in securing American Independence, in founding the National Government, in creating and directing the great currents of opinion; in view of all the interests and responsibilities which pertained to them, their duty and necessity of intelligent and independent judgment, and of fearless action; the occasion impressed itself upon the people of Massachusetts, stirred heart and conscience, fired every disinterested emotion, stimulated every heroic purpose, and found them ready, when the hour struck, to march once more in the cause of liberty and the rights of mankind, patient to follow, and prepared to lead.

Convinced, if I had doubted it before, by events and conversations of which I was personally a wit-

ness at Washington, in the month of December, 1860, of the certain coming of the war which ensued, there seemed but two causes of anxiety, with which one needed be disturbed, who believed in the care of Providence, the safety and the happiness found in the ways of duty, even though rugged and severe. The first ground of apprehension was, that the bolt might fall before the inauguration of President Lincoln should place the symbols of power into his faithful hands. The second ground of apprehension was, that it might fall upon us, finding no competent body prepared with appropriate organization, and military array, adequate to maintain the first shock of arms, and to hold the keys of power and the points of strategy, (whose loss might become fatal to the cause,) while the great body of the people, for the first time truly conscious of the exigency, could be rallied for resistance.

The General Court and the Volunteer Militia of Massachusetts, promptly coöperated in the needful work of preparation. And when the electric summons of the 15th of April came to our citizen soldiers, citing them to the field, a brigade was ready to march, almost like veterans from their garrison; and even the very exigency of an interruption of the means of transportation through Maryland, contemplated in the month of January before, was seasonably met, according to the suggestion at that time made by Lieut.-General Scott,

by providing for the transit of troops by water carriage down the Susquehanna, and around to Annapolis, within one day's forced march of Washington.

The tragedy, the triumph, the glory of these four intervening years, the terrible and the consoling experiences they have wrought, are too near to us in time, and their scenes and emotions are in too vivid and distracting contact yet, for their portrayal by pencil, tongue or pen. But removed from their immediate presence, the poetic sense will hereafter perceive them in their more just proportions. It is not the photograph, with its rigid severity of outline and superficial accuracy, but the work of imaginative art which produces in truest reality the forms of beauty illuminated by the inspiring soul.

It is not for me to attempt to separate the bewildering masses of transactions and emotions through which we have lived, nor to rise above the influences of those recent events which at present control alike the imagination and the reason. But while I confess the impossibility of executing such a task in any manner becoming the occasion, I may testify to the impressions stamped forever on our memories and on our hearts by that great week in April, when Massachusetts rose up at the sound of the cannonade of Sumter, and her militia brigade springing to their arms appeared on Boston Com-

mon. It redeemed the meanness and the weariness of many a prosaic life. It was a revelation of a profound sentiment, of manly faith, of glorious fidelity and of a love stronger than death. Those were days of which none other in the history of the war became the parallel. And when on the evening of the anniversary of the battle of Lexington, there came the news along the wires that the Sixth Regiment had been cutting its way through the streets of Baltimore, whose pavements were reddened with the blood of Middlesex, it seemed as if there descended into our hearts a mysterious strength and into our minds a supernal illumination. In many trying experiences of the war we have watched by starlight as well as sunlight the doubtful fortunes of our arms. But never has the news of victory, decisive and grand,—not even that of Gettysburg, on which hung issues more tremendous than ever depended on the fortunes of a single battle-field,—so lifted us above ourselves, so transformed our earthly weakness into heavenly might, by a glorious transfiguration. The citizens of yesterday were to-day the heroes whom history would never forget; and the fallen brave had put on the crown of martyrdom, more worthy than a hundred mortal diadems. Their blood alone was precious enough to wipe out the long arrears of shame. The great and necessary struggle was begun, without which we were a disgraced, a doomed, a

ruined people. We had reached the parting of the ways; and we had not hesitated to choose the right one. Oh! it is terrible, beyond expression terrible, to feel that only war, with all its griefs and pains and crimes, will save a people; but how infinitely greater than the dread and the dismay with which we thought of war, was the *hope of that salvation*.

It was on the first day of May that Massachusetts received back to her soil the remains of these, her children, over whom we rear this monument.

One of the dead still sleeps at Baltimore. The mangled bodies of the other three, transported hither under charge of one of their fellow-soldiers, reached the State capital just before sunset, where they were received by the Governor of the Commonwealth, and were escorted through streets draped in emblems of mourning and lined by thousands of citizens with uncovered heads and moistened eyes, to the "Vassal tomb" beneath the ancient "King's Chapel." On the way they were borne past the State House over the same ground where twelve days before they had stood to receive the flag which they swore to defend, and which they had died defending.

Of these three martyrs, the name of but one was known—that of SUMNER HENRY NEEDHAM, of Lawrence. The rolls of the regiment were cut off with its baggage, in the struggle at Baltimore. But had not this accident occurred, they might

have failed to afford means of identifying the remains; for in the haste of the original assembling and moving of the regiment they had escaped careful revision. Some men had discarded the implements and clothing of peace, and fallen into the ranks, on its march across the city, the very hour of its departure. In those early days, when the nation was wavering between life and death, we did not waste time on forms. We were asked to send two regiments of troops as soon as we could. We did send five regiments, and more, sooner than the country had believed was possible to any State; but in accomplishing that, we neglected formalities which would have been indispensable under an exigency less tremendous.

Therefore it was, that two of the three corpses,—the same two which have mouldered into these ashes, in the presence of which we stand—lay before us that May evening, without a name. Later in the night, under the direction of officers of the Head-quarters' staff of Massachusetts, and in the presence of the Mayors of the cities of Lawrence and of Lowell, these bodies were identified, and the names of LUTHER CRAWFORD LADD and ADDISON OTIS WHITNEY, two young mechanics, both of Lowell, were added to that of Needham. And, completing the four, is the name of CHARLES A. TAYLOR, whose residence and family even now remain unknown.

To complete the historical record of the humble men who thus, by a fortunate and glorious death have made their names imperishable, let us review the brief stories of their lives. They are quickly told. They are simple in incident; and they are characteristic of New England.

Little is known of Taylor, except that his trade was that of a decorative painter. The most careful inquiries of his officers have failed to discover his residence or his origin. On the evening of April 16th he presented himself at Boston, in the hall where the regiment was quartered, and was enrolled as a volunteer. He appeared to be about twenty-five years of age. His hair was light; his eyes blue. After he fell on the pavement at Baltimore on the afternoon of April 19th, his brutal murderers beat him with clubs until life was extinct.

Needham was born March 2d, 1828, at Bethel, a little town lying under the shadow of the White Mountains, on the banks of the Androscoggin River, in the County of Oxford, in the State of Maine. About 1850 he came to Lawrence, in Massachusetts, and engaged in his trade there, as a plasterer. After he fell mortally wounded at Baltimore, he was removed to the Infirmary, where he lingered until April 27th, when he died. His remains lie at Lawrence, where his wife and child reside.

Luther Crawford (son of John and Fanny) Ladd was born at Alexandria, near the Merrimack River, in the County of Grafton, in the State of New Hampshire—where his parents still reside—on the 22d day of December, 1843, being the anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims.

Addison Otis (son of John F. and Jane B.) Whitney was born October 30th, 1839, at Waldo, in the county of the same name, which borders on the Penobscot River, near where it joins the sea, in the State of Maine. Both died unmarried.

These brief lives offer no incidents that are not common to most of the ingenuous young men of New England. Born of honest parentage, the youth of both Ladd and Whitney was passed by the side of the great rivers, and the sea, and the mountains of New England, and was nurtured in correct principles and fair ambition, by the teaching of free schools, until, arrived at manhood, and attracted by the opportunities of the great mechanical establishments of the eastern counties of Massachusetts, they came to Lowell, and were employed, the first in a machine shop, the second in the spinning-room of one of its manufactories. Their companions in toil and in social life testify to their exemplary habits, their amiable disposition, and their laudable industry. And thus they were engaged, constant in work, hopeful of long life, and confident of the

success which is everywhere in New England the fruit of free and honest labor, when the sudden summons reached them to take up arms for their country. They never faltered for one moment in simple-hearted patriotism, and loyal obedience. At Lowell, on the 15th day of April, they dropped the garb of the artisan, and assumed that of the citizen-soldier. Four days afterwards at Baltimore, their mortal bodies, bruised and lifeless, lay on the bloody stones of Pratt Street, the victims of the brutal mob.

Both Whitney and Ladd were young, and moved by a dauntless enthusiasm. Whitney was but twenty-one years of age, and Ladd was only in his eighteenth year.

Whitney joined the Lowell City Guards (Co. D, of the Sixth Regiment,) in the summer of 1860. He attended muster with the regiment that year, and was discharged early in the winter of 1861, because he was learning a trade, and could ill afford the time and expense of membership. On the call of the Governor on the regimental commanders, in March, 1861, to ascertain how many men in their commands would be ready for active service in case they should be needed, Whitney promptly came forward, and signified his willingness to obey the summons. He signed the rolls of the company with the understanding that if it should not be wanted he should be discharged. On the evening

of April 15th, when the order came for the regiment to get ready to leave the following day, he was among the first to put on his uniform. In company with a comrade, he left the armory about two o'clock during the night of the 16th, for the purpose of procuring his photograph in the early morning, and he was at his company post promptly at the time appointed.

In passing through Baltimore he was on the left of the first section, and while marching through Pratt Street, near the bridge, was seen to fall. Some of his comrades, thinking he had stumbled, tried to assist him, but finding he was dead, they left him where he fell. A bullet had pierced his right breast, passing down the body, causing instant death. The shot was undoubtedly fired from the upper window of a house. The coat which he wore was found stripped of every button, cut off by the mob. The place in the coat where the bullet entered is plainly visible, saturated with his blood.

The precise manner of the death of Ladd is known by the bullet-holes, of which there are several, through the coat and the overcoat he wore, and by their gory stains. He is reported to have cultivated a strong taste for historical reading, and from his earliest boyhood to have entered with ardor into the study of our national affairs. He enlisted in the City Guards, at Lowell, three months before his death, on the occasion of the

appearance of the General Order of that year from the Commonwealth Head-quarters, already alluded to, and known as Order No. 4; and he expressed his desire to join that company most likely to be called to active duty. By his youth he was legally exempt from military service; and his friends would have dissuaded him at last from assuming its hardships and perils. But he met their persuasions by an appeal to the flag of his country whose fortunes he declared that he would surely follow. And when the fatal bullets had smitten him and he lay struggling with death, of a sudden the vision of his country's flag seemed to flash before him, as a momentary glory and delight, and exclaiming aloud, with his dying voice, "All hail to the Stripes and Stars!" the soldier-boy ended his brief campaign.

The public opinion that permitted this tragedy derives its interpretation from public documents and official action which leave no doubt of the value of the Massachusetts Militia to the Union cause, no doubt of the danger their service averted, no doubt of the urgent necessity of that very march through Baltimore, no doubt that it was the hinge on which turned the ultimate fate of Maryland, and perhaps of the Union. Our Militia were ready not a day too soon, nor were they an hour too late. The people of Baltimore, so telegraphed the Mayor, to myself, on the 20th of April, regarded the passage of armed troops of

another State through their streets, as an invasion of their soil, and could not be restrained. The Governor of Maryland and the Mayor of Baltimore represented to President Lincoln that the people were exasperated to the highest degree by the presence of the troops, and that it was not possible for more soldiers to pass through Baltimore. They remonstrated against the transit of more soldiers, and they required that the troops already in the State be sent back to its borders. In reply to the Mayor of Baltimore the Governor of Massachusetts telegraphed: "I am overwhelmed with surprise that a peaceful march of American citizens over the highway to the defence of our common capital should be deemed aggressive to Baltimoreans. Through New York their march was triumphal."

The loyal people of the Union shared this surprise, and exhibited it through the public press, in public meetings, in cordial response to the Presidential proclamation, and by promptly raising troops for three months' service. The affair of the 19th of April was observed throughout the country with inexpressible emotion. The patience and valor of the Sixth Regiment excited the emulation of their comrades everywhere. By the 14th of May, the forces under General Butler, from different States, within what was then termed the military department of Annapolis, enabled him to

occupy with a detachment of his command, Federal Hill, in the corporate limits of Baltimore, for the purpose, among other things, of enforcing respect and obedience to the laws of the United States. And on that day, the Governor of Maryland issued his Proclamation for four regiments of the Maryland Militia to serve as three months' volunteers, either within the limits of Maryland or for the defence of the Capital of the United States, subject to the orders of the Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

The effort to prevent the transit of the loyal volunteers soon terminated; but the same temper of mind which excited the attack on the Sixth Regiment, and would have forbidden to the nation the movement of troops for its own necessary protection, over highways common to all the people, had possession for the time of the Legislature at Annapolis.

On May 14th, 1861, the General Assembly of Maryland passed Resolves declaring that—

“the war now waged by the government of the United States upon the people of the Confederate States is unconstitutional in its origin, repugnant to civilization and sound policy, subversive of the free principles upon which the Federal Union was founded, and certain to result in the hopeless and bloody overthrow of our existing institutions.”

That—

“the people of Maryland * * * sympathize deeply with their Southern brethren in their noble and manly determination to uphold and defend the great American principle of self-government.”

That—

“the State of Maryland * * * registers her solemn protest against the war which the Federal government has declared upon the Confederate States of the South, and our sister and neighbor, Virginia, and announces her resolute determination to have no part or lot, directly or indirectly, in its prosecution.”

That—

“the Senators and Delegates of Maryland do fervently beseech and implore the President of the United States, * * in the name of God and humanity, to cease this unholy and most wretched and unprofitable strife.”

That—

“the State of Maryland desires the peaceful and immediate recognition of the independence of the Confederate States, and hereby gives her cordial consent thereunto.”

On June 22d, 1861, the same Assembly passed Resolves “earnestly desiring and requesting” its Senators in Congress “to urge and vote for an immediate recognition of the independence of the Government of the Confederate States of America,” declaring, also, “that the right of separation from the Federal Union is a right neither arising under nor prohibited by the Constitution, but a sovereign right, independent of the Constitution, to be exercised by the several States upon their own responsibility;” and “in favor of the recognition of the Southern Confederacy and an acknowledgment of its government.”

But meanwhile the struggle between secession and the Union had been going on among the people. Time for reflection, opportunity for debate, had

been gained. By vigorous national measures the tide of evil had been stayed; and Maryland, which might like other States have been hurled into disunion by precipitate legislation, had been saved.

The next legislature earnestly began to retrieve the past. In December, 1861, by an order of the House of Delegates of the General Assembly, its Committee on the Militia was instructed "to confer with the Governor of Massachusetts and learn the condition of the widows and orphans, or any dependents of those patriots who were so brutally murdered in the riot of the 19th of April." The Chairman of the Committee, John V. L. Findlay, Esq., of the Baltimore bar, in his communication to the Governor, reciting that "the loyal people of Maryland, and especially of the city of Baltimore, after long suffering, are at length able through a Union Legislature to put themselves in a proper relation to the Government and the country," stated that "in effecting the latter, they feel their first duty is to Massachusetts. They are anxious to wipe out the foul blot of the Baltimore riot as soon as it can be wiped out, and as soon as possible."

In his reply to this communication the Governor informed Mr. Findlay that he had addressed the Mayors of Lawrence and Lowell on the subject of his inquiries, and added—"The past cannot be forgotten, but it can and will be forgiven; and in

the good Providence of God I believe that the day is not distant when the blood that was shed at Baltimore by those martyrs to a cause as holy as any for which sword was ever drawn, shall be known to have cemented in an eternal union of sympathy, affection, and nationality, the sister States of Maryland and Massachusetts."

Upon the receipt from the Mayors, of the information desired, it was promptly communicated to the Maryland Committee.

On the 5th of March, 1862, an Act was passed by the General Assembly of Maryland, by which after a preamble setting forth that "whereas the Sixth Regiment of Massachusetts Volunteers on their way to defend the National Capital were brutally attacked by a mob in the streets of Baltimore on the 19th of April, 1861," and "the State of Maryland is anxious to do something to efface that stain from her hitherto untarnished honor," the sum of seven thousand dollars was appropriated and placed at the disposal of the Governor of Massachusetts to be disbursed by him for the relief of the families of those soldiers who were then killed or disabled by their wounds.

This magnanimous Act was suitably acknowledged by the General Court of Massachusetts, in Resolves approved on April 30th, and transmitted to the Governor of Maryland, and by him laid before the General Assembly of that State.

These Resolves declared that "the people of Massachusetts will welcome with sincere and cordial satisfaction this evidence of the generous sympathy of the people of Maryland, which will tend to restore and strengthen that kind and fraternal feeling which should ever exist between the citizens of the different States of the Union."

The fund thus appropriated was distributed under the direction of the Governor, to the surviving families of Needham, Ladd and Whitney, and to seventeen of the wounded, by an informal commission, composed of Messrs. John Nesmith, the Lieutenant-Governor, and James M. Shute and Gerry W. Cochrane, members of the Executive Council, whose discriminating and benevolent care deserve our grateful recognition.

Maryland at last had attained a firm position against secession, and in general support of the National Government. But the *regeneration* of the State was yet incomplete. The General Assembly had in December, 1861, appointed a Committee "to proceed forthwith to Washington and request an interview with Major-General McClellan and solicit the adoption of some plan to prevent the admission of fugitive slaves within the lines of the army."

In March, 1862, they had "seen with concern, certain indications at the seat of the general government of an interference with the institution of

slavery in the slaveholding States," and bore solemn testimony against "a policy so unwise and mischievous."

During that session, they made formal appeal to the people of the Northern States "to discontinue by every means in their power all attempts to revive the agitation of slavery."

They called upon the North "to rebuke in an unmistakable manner those of their Representatives in Congress who are wasting their time in devising schemes for the abolition of slavery in the rebellious States."

And they announced that they "witness with great regret the efforts which are now making for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia."

But Maryland was not singular in her reluctance. As yet the policy of the Nation was undefined. Nor did it reach the dignity of positive justice, clearly pronounced, until by the great Proclamation of Liberty, the Government became anchored to an immortal thought, and decreed Emancipation. By that act the President ascended a height more lofty than Federal Hill. He rose to the serene heights of Zion, received light and knowledge and power from an Eternal Source, fixed by a word the moral judgment of mankind in sympathy with our national cause, secured the verdict of history and the prayers

of the good in every land, and humbly awaited "the gracious favor of Almighty God."

Among the early results was the conversion of Maryland, despite her former legislative resolves, to a free Commonwealth. The Proclamation, powerless to emancipate the slaves in loyal States, had not unlocked the fetters of the Maryland slave. But by magnetic sympathy its idea had seized the minds of those who controlled the State, and a new constitution, of which the policy of Emancipation was the soul, became the consequence.

The new constitution, framed by a convention which met the 27th of April, 1864, was introduced by a declaration of rights, the first article of which is in these significant words:—

"We hold it to be self-evident that all men are created equally free; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, the enjoyment of the proceeds of their own labor, and the pursuit of happiness."

The twenty-fourth article of the declaration reads:—

"That hereafter, in this State, there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except in punishment of crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted; and all persons held to service or labor as slaves are hereby declared free."

And the thirty-sixth section of the third article of the constitution declares:—

"The General Assembly shall pass no law, nor make any appropriation to compensate the masters or claimants of slaves emancipated from servitude by the adoption of this constitution."

Submitted to the adjudication of the people, this charter was adopted by their vote, and became the constitution of Maryland, taking effect on the first day of November in the year 1864.

No hand of menace or threat of vengeance was ever raised by Massachusetts. She fulfilled her duty to the country by the march of her militia. She maintained her fidelity to the Union and to her sister Commonwealth. She awaited the time when History should become the vindicator of her conduct and avenge the blood of her children.

Nor was the waiting vain. No sweeter triumph could have blessed her. The slaughter of her sons was disavowed and atoned for. The Government of the State called out four regiments to march shoulder to shoulder with our militia whose recall it had at first demanded. Secession was replaced by resolves and deeds in support of the war for the Union. Our own doctrines and principles concerning human liberty, so long denounced and despised, were embodied by the people of Maryland in their fundamental law. And finally, in her ratification on February 3d, 1865, of the Amendment of the Constitution of the United States abolishing slavery throughout the Union, Maryland led by her example Massachusetts herself. From the hour when your martyred brethren fell in Pratt Street, the redemption of Maryland—the salvation of one of the "Old Thirteen,"

whose ancient fame is one with ours—and the emancipation of her bondmen, were secure. The result came like the fulfilment of prophecy. It was the working of the wisdom and the love of God overruling the devices of men.

Friends and Fellow-citizens:—

The limits of the occasion forbid me to invade the proper domain of history. I must not try to recount the story of the regiment during its three months of service, nor even allude to the incidents illustrating the careers of the organizations which composed our militia brigade. I seek not to divert your thoughts from the transactions around which centre the interests and emotions of this hour of commemoration. Ages shall elapse before eloquent tongues shall cease to discourse on the ever new and varying attractions of the heroic themes furnished by the deeds of all the soldiers of the Union. But this hour is sacred to the memories of the 19th of April, to the action and passion of that day in Baltimore, to the relation borne by the events of that day to those which surrounded and followed them, and to their significance in the grand drama of which they formed the introduction.

Let this monument, raised to preserve the names of Ladd and Whitney,—the two young artisans of Lowell, who fell among the first martyrs of the great rebellion,—let this monument, now dedicated

to their memory, stand for a thousand generations! It is another shaft added to the monumental columns of Middlesex. Henceforth shall the inhabitants of Lowell guard for Massachusetts, for patriotism, and for liberty, this sacred trust, as they of Acton, of Lexington, of Concord, protect the votive stones which commemorate the men of April, '75.

Let it stand, as long as the Merrimac runs from the mountains to the sea; while this busy stream of human life sweeps on by the banks of the river, bearing to eternity its freight of destiny and hope. It shall speak to your children, not of Death, but of Immortality. It shall stand here, a mute, expressive witness of the beauty and the dignity of youth and manly prime consecrated in unselfish obedience to Duty. It shall testify that gratitude will remember, and praise will wait on the humblest, who, by the intrinsic greatness of their souls, or the worth of their offerings, have risen to the sublime peerage of Virtue.

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